



This image was created by the Day/Night Band of the VIIRS instrument on board the NOAA/NASA Suomi NPP Satellite. Credit: NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center/NASA Earth Observatory

December 2016

Moon phases are Universal Time (UT)

NEW MOON

FIRST QUARTER

FULL MOON

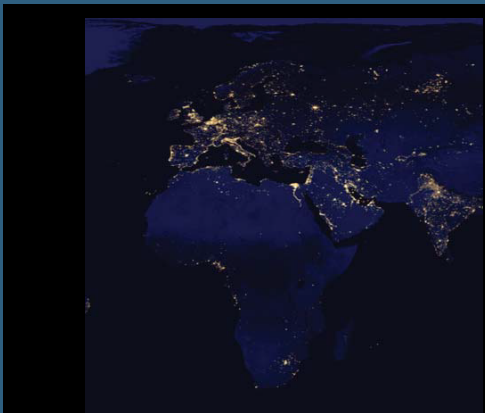
LAST QUARTER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																													
<div>NOVEMBER</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr><tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				<div>JANUARY</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr><tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							1	2	3
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																													
6	7	8	9	10	11	12																																																																													
13	14	15	16	17	18	19																																																																													
20	21	22	23	24	25	26																																																																													
27	28	29	30																																																																																
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																													
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																													
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																													
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																													
29	30	31																																																																																	
4	5	6 <div>ATS-1 launched, 1966</div>	7 <div></div>	8	9	10																																																																													
11 <div>NOAA-1 launched, 1970</div>	12	13 <div></div>	14	15	16	17																																																																													
18	19	20 <div></div>	21	22	23	24 <div>NOAA-9 launched, 1984</div>																																																																													
25 <div>Christmas Day</div>	26	27	28 <div></div>	29	30 <div>NOAA-14 launched, 1994</div>	31																																																																													

The Earth at night

JPSS’s VIIRS instrument has a Day/Night band with the unique ability to capture imagery of the Earth at night. The Day/Night band detects low levels of visible and near-infrared radiance. This means that low clouds, fog, snow cover and other sources will be visible to JPSS at night. The Day/Night band capability has proven invaluable in the arctic regions for differentiating cloud, ice and snow cover. The imagery has also been used with city light maps to model the distribution of economic activity and populations, monitor human development around parks and wildlife refuges, and to observe blackout areas following hurricane landfalls.

This composite night image of Europe, Africa and parts of Asia taken by Suomi NPP’s VIIRS instrument was assembled over several days in 2012. It shows how the planet looks at night, with the lights from our cities dotting the landscape and illuminating the night sky.



Credit: Chris Elvidge National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), NOAA/NASA Suomi NPP, VIIRS instrument.